

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HALIFA 00021 151633Z

11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01

/070 W

----- 112246

R 151550Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1204

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0021

E.O. 11652:N/A

SUBJECT: PAUL HELLYER, CANIDATE FOR LEADERSHIP OF
PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES SPEAKS IN HALIFAX

1. ON JANUARY 13, 1976 PAUL HELLYER A CANIDATE
FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES
PARTY HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN HALIFAX. IN A CITY
WHICH HAS A STRONG TIE TO THE MILITARY, MR HELLYER
WAS AT GREAT PAINS TO EXPLAIN HIS STAND ON MILITARY
MATTERS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS ROLE IN UNIFYING
THE COUNTRYS ARMED FORCES WHEN HE WAS MINISTER OF
DEFENSE FROM 1963-1967 COULD HAVE SOME EFFECT ON
POTENTIAL DELEGATE SUPPORT FROM THE MARITIMES PROVINCES.
HE PLANS, HOWEVER, TO EMPHASIZE THE ADVANTAGES THAT
UNIFICATION HAS BROUGHT TO THE ARMED FORCES. (THIS LINE
IS NOT LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE IN THIS AREA).

2. IN JUSTIFICATION OF HIS ROLE AS DEFENSE MINISTER, MR.
HELLYER SAID THAT IT IS OFTEN FORGOTTEN THAT HE WAS THE
LAST DEFENSE MINISTER TO ORDER NEW NAVAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE
ARMED FORCES. QUOTE THE PEOPLE OF HALIFAX MAY NOT REALIZE
THAT IT WAS I WHO ODEREED THAT LAST NINE SHIPS ACQUIRED
QUOTE. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IT IS BAD POLICY FOR THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT NOT TO BE CONTINUALLY SUPPLEMENTING ITS NAVAL
STRENGTH AND THAT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE LAYING
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 HALIFA 00021 151633Z

TO DEEL A YEAR.

3. HELLYER IN SUPPORT OF HIS CANDIDACY SAID THAT GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE IS, QUOTE FRANKLY A VERY IMPORTANT ASSET QUOTE IN THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP RACE. HE SAID THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS UNLESS A PERSON HAS ACTUALLY BEEN INVOLVED IN THE POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL PROCESS.

4. MR. HELLYER SAID THAT HE DID NOT FEEL THAT HIS CREDITIBILITY IS AT STAKE BECAUSE OF HIS FORMER ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THE ACTION CANADA MOVEMENT. (HE POINTED OUT THAT HE HAD BEEN A CANDIDATE FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF THE LIBERAL PARTY IN 1968). DURING HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH ACTION CANADA, HELLYER SAID THAT HE HAD STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF REALIGNMENTS AND THAT A SIMILAR

REALIGNMENT IS NEEDED IF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY IS TO FORM THE NEXT GOVERNMENT OF CANADA. QUOTE IF CONSERVATIVES WANT TO WIN, THEY MUST HAVE THE SUPPORT OF A WIDER CROSS-SECTION OF CANADIANS. UNQUOTE

5. SHOULD HELLYER BECOME TORY LEADER HE SAID THAT HE HAS A NUMBER OF OPTIONS WITH REGARD TO OBTAINING A SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. HE HAS ALREADY BEEN OFFERED A SEAT BY ONE SITTING CONSERVATIVE (OUTSIDE ONTARIO) AND IS CONSIDERING THREE OTHER QUOTE SAFE SEATS.

6. WHILE DECLINING TO NAME POSSIBLE LIBERAL DESERTERS SHOULD HE BE NAMED CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER, HE SAID THAT HAS AN INDICATION THAT AT LEAST ONE CURRENT LIBERAL MP WOULD QUOTE CROSS THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE QUOTE.

7. MR. HELLYER SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISERS RECENT COTROVERSIAL STATEMENTS ON THE CANADIAN ECONOMY QUOTE SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY THE CANADIAN PEOPLE QUOTE AS THEY REPRESENT THE PRIME MINISTERS PHILOSOPHY AND HIS APPROACH TO THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF CANADA. HE CRITICIZED THE LIBERAL PARTY FOR ADOPTING A PROGRAM OF WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS AS WHICH IT HAD CONDEMNED WHEN PRESENTED BY THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 HALIFA 00021 151633Z

CONSERVATIVE DURING THE 1974 FEDERAL ELECTION.

8. COMMENT: MR. HELLYER CLEARLY FEELS THAT IN AN AREA IN WHICH THE MILITARY PLAYS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE LIVES OF ALL THE POPULATION, HE MUST PROVIDE CLEAR JUSTIFICATION FOR HIS ACTIONS AS DEFENSE MINISTER. IN THIS PART OF CANADA THERE IS GREAT RESENTMENT OVER THE UNIFICATION OF THE

ARMED FORCES BOTH ON THE PART OF THOSE SERVING ACTIVELY AND
ON THE PART OF THE MANY RETIRED OFFICERS AND MEN. ANY
SUPPORT FOR MR. HELLYER HERE WILL HAVE TO OVERCOME THIS
FORMIDABLE HURDEL.
MANBEY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HALIFA00021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760016-0704
From: HALIFAX
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760155/aaaabwmv.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <06 DEC 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAUL HELLYER, CANIDATE FOR LEADERSHIP OF PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES SPEAKS IN HALIFAX
TAGS: PINT, CA, PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES, (HELLYER, PAUL)
To: STATE
OTTAWA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006